

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

I. STATUS OF CLAIMS

Claims 1-14 and 21-34 remain in this application. Claims 1-14 have been rejected. Apparatus Claims 21-34 have been added. Applicant thanks the Examiner for his comments during a 16 April 2007 telephone interview.

II. CLAIM REJECTIONS – 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Final Office Action rejected Claims 1-14 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chauhan (hereinafter “Chauhan”) U.S. Patent No. 6,115,752 in view of Scharber (hereinafter “Scharber”) U.S. Patent No. 6,542,964, and in further view of Lin et al. (hereinafter “Lin”) 2001/0052015. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 has been amended to clarify the claimed invention and appears as follows:

1. A method, comprising:
 - receiving a request from a user for a web page at a first web address, the first web address including a hostname;
 - determining traffic loads of a plurality of mirrored customer web servers, each of the customer web servers storing the web page;
 - determining a customer web server from the plurality of mirrored customer web servers that is appropriate for the request, the customer web server having a traffic load lower than traffic loads of remaining customer web servers from the plurality of mirrored customer web servers;
 - determining an IP address of the customer web server;
 - directing the request from the user to the customer web server;
 - receiving a request from the user for static content on the web page at a second web address, the second web address including the hostname;
 - determining service metrics of caching servers in a network of caching servers;
 - wherein a customer pays a fee to a service for use of the network of caching servers storing static content for the customer;
 - allowing a customer to add at least one of the customer’s web servers to the plurality of mirrored customer web servers via a user interface;

determining a caching server from the network of caching servers that is appropriate for the request for static content, the caching server having service metrics better than service metrics of remaining caching servers from the network of caching servers;

retrieving the static content from the caching server; and
providing the static content to the user.

As discussed with the Examiner, neither Chauhan nor Scharber nor Lin teach or disclose a system that allows a customer to add at least one of the customer's web servers to the plurality of mirrored customer web servers via a user interface as cited in Claims 1, 8, 21, and 28. Neither Chauhan nor Scharber nor Lin contemplate such a feature. Further, as applicant has previously pointed out, neither Chauhan nor Scharber nor Lin teach or disclose a method that performs functions across two distinct sets of servers, i.e., a customer's Web servers and a network of caching servers, where the customer is a customer of a service and pays a fee to a service for use of the network of caching servers storing static content for the customer. Neither Chauhan nor Scharber nor Lin make such a distinction.

Therefore, Chauhan in view of Scharber and in further view of Lin does not teach or disclose the invention as claimed.

Claims 1 and 8 are allowable. Claims 21 and 28 are apparatus claims of Claims 1 and 8, respectively, and are similarly allowable. Claims 2-7, and 9-14 are dependent upon independent Claims 1 and 8, respectively. Claims 22-27, and 29-34 are dependent upon independent Claims 21 and 28, respectively. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a).

III. CONCLUSIONS & MISCELLANEOUS

Applicants respectfully request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Applicants believe that all issues raised in the Office Action have been addressed and that allowance of the pending claims is appropriate.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (408) 414-1214 to discuss any issue that may advance prosecution.

No fee is believed to be due specifically in connection with this Reply. To the extent necessary, Applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee that may be due in connection with this Reply to our Deposit Account No. 50-1302.

Respectfully submitted,
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